

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Treatment and long-term recovery from substance use disorders can offer a renewed outlook on life for those who are addicted and their family members; and,

Whereas, Substance use disorders impact 22.6 million people in the United States and over 71,000 people in South Dakota age 12 or over, which is 9.2 percent of the population, and is more than the number of people living with coronary heart disease, cancer, or Alzheimer's disease combined; and,

Whereas, People who receive treatment for substance use disorders can lead more productive and fulfilling lives, personally and professionally; and,

Whereas, Studies have consistently found that individualized treatment is essential for people to be successful in their path to recovery; and,

Whereas, Real stories of long-term recovery can inspire others to ask for help and to improve their own lives, the lives of their families, and the entire community; and,

Whereas, It is critical that we educate our community members that substance use disorders are treatable, yet serious health care problems, and by treating them like other chronic diseases, we can improve the quality of life for the entire community; and,

Whereas, To help achieve this goal, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, and the South Dakota Department of Human Services' Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse invite all residents of South Dakota to participate in Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 2008 as

ALCOHOL & DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

in South Dakota, and I encourage all citizens to support this year's theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Real People, Real Recovery," with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.



M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Jeresa J. Bray, Deputy
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State